

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



Office of Suffolk County Legislator Kevin J. McCaffrey, 14th District

For Immediate Release
Date: July 18, 2016

Contact: Zach Giglio
Phone: 631-854-1100

LEGISLATOR MCCAFFREY AND PARTNERS HOST NARCAN TRAINING TO SAVE LIVES



Picture Left to Right: Officer Eileen Brown, Jason Byron, Chief Christine Manzi, Legislator Kevin McCaffrey, Commissioner John Manzi, Elizabeth Butcher, Christine Amon

West Babylon, NY: On Thursday, July 14, Legislator Kevin McCaffrey hosted a NARCAN training at the West Babylon Fire Department to combat the opioid epidemic and teach people how to administer the live saving drug to save the lives of people who overdose.

The training was hosted by Legislator McCaffrey's office in partnership with the West Babylon Fire Department, the Suffolk County Police Department, the West Babylon Main Street Organization, Lindenhurst Community Cares and 7-11. More than 50 people from the community were in attendance.

"We were pleased to see so many people from the community brave the storm we had and show up to better understand the opioid epidemic and how they can save people's lives," said Legislator McCaffrey. "The event was a success, and we have our partners and the community to thank for that."

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The presentations were focused on educating the public about the epidemic and covering ways that those in attendance could help and spread the word to their friends and families. Combating the opioid epidemic continues to be an important initiative for all levels of government and community organizations alike.

“The West Babylon Main Street Organization was proud to partner with Legislator McCaffrey and all the other community groups for the NARCAN training night at the West Babylon Fire Department,” said Diane Thiel, president of the West Babylon Main Street Organization. “It’s very important that we continue efforts like this by working together to bring greater awareness for prevention, to offer resources to help those in need of support for recovery and to be prepared to help save a life in an emergency situation.”

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Combating the opioid epidemic has become a major focus for the Suffolk County Legislature and Legislator McCaffrey in particular. The opioid epidemic has risen to the top of Legislator McCaffrey's list of priorities, along with balancing the budget.

"When I was first elected to the Suffolk County Legislature, I said my main focus would be on balancing the budget in Suffolk County," said McCaffrey. "Now, I am also focusing on the opioid epidemic in Suffolk County in the hopes that I can save at least one life through my work and these trainings."

According to Suffolk County Police Department (SCPD) Emergency Medical Training Unit Instructor Jason Byron, the SCPD district has already recorded approximately 580 overdoses in 2016, with 109 of them being fatal. Suffolk County also has the highest amount of overdoses in New York State, which has a total of 72 counties.

Legislator McCaffrey represents Suffolk County's 14th Legislative District which encompasses the Village of Lindenhurst, Babylon Village, the hamlets of West Babylon and North Lindenhurst, portions of Copiague, North Babylon and Babylon's barrier beach communities.

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